Joseph Strauss Papers
A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

Contact information: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm70053603

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009166

Prepared by Melinda K. Friend

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009
Revised 2010 April
Collection Summary
Title: Joseph Strauss Papers
Span Dates: 1884-1949
ID No.: MSS53603
Creator: Strauss, Joseph, 1861-1948
Extent: 750 items
Extent: 5 containers plus 1 oversize
Extent: 2.5 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mss53603
Summary: United States naval officer and inventor. Correspondence, memoranda, writings, speeches, patents, logbooks, reports, orders for duty, notebooks, scrapbooks, and printed matter pertaining primarily to Strauss's naval career especially his command of mine operations against German U-boats during World War I, as commander in chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet, and as joint-receiver for the United States Navy during the Teapot Dome scandal.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Organizations
United States Naval Academy.

Subjects
Anti-submarine warfare.
Teapot Dome Scandal, 1921-1924.
World War, 1914-1918--Naval operations--Submarine.

Occupations
Inventors.
Naval officers.

Provenance
The papers of Joseph Strauss, United States Navy admiral and inventor, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1962, 1977, and 1988. The deposit was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History
The papers of Joseph Strauss were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joseph Strauss is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).
**Access and Restrictions**

The papers of Joseph Strauss are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Joseph Strauss Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Joseph Strauss (1861-1948) span the years 1884-1949 and consist of correspondence, memoranda, logbooks, reports, speeches, writings, orders for duty, notebooks, scrapbooks, and printed matter. Strauss's career is chronicled from his days at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, to his retirement from the navy in 1929 and to his subsequent reactivation by the secretary of the navy. Covered in these papers are his duties as the commander of the northern sea mine barrage to impede German U-boats during World War I, as commander in chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet aboard the flagship *Huron*, 1921-1922, and as a joint-receiver for the navy during the investigation of the Teapot Dome scandal and the resulting case of *United States v. Mammoth Oil Co.*, 1924-1928. Included also in the papers are student notebooks with Strauss's detailed drawings of sails, riggings, and rails; his patents; and logbooks kept while serving aboard various ships.

**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged by type of material.
## Container List

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Personal, 1887-1949, undated</td>
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| BOX 1     | Correspondence, 1906-1948, undated  
(4 folders) |
| BOX 1     | Memorabilia, 1887, 1897-1898, 1909, 1915-1918, undated |
| BOX 1     | Newspaper clippings and articles, 1900, 1908, 1915-1923, 1939-1943, 1949, undated |
| BOX 1     | Patent on method of making armor-plate, 1906 |
| BOX 1     | Scrapbooks, 1895-1943 *See also Oversize*  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 1     | Speeches, 1919-1923, undated |
| BOX 1     | Writings, 1895, 1920-1925, 1940, undated |
| BOX 2     | Naval papers, 1884-1938, undated |
| BOX 2     | Advisory Board on Battleship Plans, 1937-1938, undated |
| BOX 2     | Asiatic Fleet  
Activities prior to arrival in Yokohama, Japan, circa 1921-circa 1922 |
| BOX 2     | Personal files, 1921-1922  
Reports on tour as commander in chief, 1921-1922  
Roster, 1922 |
| BOX 2     | Batteries on battleships, diagrams, undated |
| BOX 2     | Logbooks  
* Constellation* (sloop-of-war), 1884  
* Gedney* (coast surveyor) and *Concord* (gunboat), 1887-1888, 1891-1893  
*Omaha* (screw sloop-of-war) and *Marion* (screw steamer), 1885-1887 |
| BOX 3     | MacGregor, Charles, correspondence while commanding officer aboard the *Alliance* (screw gunboat), 1886-1887 |
| BOX 3     | *Marion* (screw steamer), station watch quarter bills, 1886  
Miscellany, 1902, 1922  
*Montgomery* (cruiser), inclining experiment, 1909  
Notebook, circa 1921-circa 1922  
Orders and official correspondence  
1885-1905  
(2 folders)  
1906-1938, undated  
(7 folders) |
| BOX 4     | Ohio (battleship), *Ohioio Oncein awhile*, 1913, Mar.-Aug.  
"Report of the Allied Conference on Mediterranean Minelaying," Malta, 1918, Aug. 6-7 |
| BOX 5     | Submarine Board, 1929  
United States Naval Academy, student notebooks  
General notes, 1881  
Navigation workbook, 1884-1885  
Seamanship notes, circa 1881-circa 1884  
Miscellaneous publications |
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<td>BOX 5</td>
<td>Other, 1898-1900, 1907-1908</td>
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<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Oversize, 1895-1943</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Personal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX OV 1</td>
<td>Scrapbook, 1895-1943 (Container 1)</td>
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